

REMARKS

Claims 2-24 remain in this application, while claim 1 is canceled above. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

The amendments to claim 2 above are made following consideration of the comments provided by the Examiner at the top of page 2 of the Office Action. All claims remaining in this application should now be in proper form.

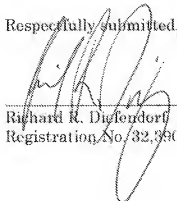
As claim 1 is now canceled, the anticipation rejection based on U.S. Patent 6,609,364 to Litorell et al., set forth on pages 2-3 of the Office Action, is moot.

It is presumed that the Examiner intends to refer to claims 2-24 in the comments concerning allowable subject matter set forth on page 3 of the Office Action; these comments are noted with appreciation. Claim 2 is amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner and should now be allowable. All other claims remaining in the application are dependent claims and should be allowable as well.

If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an extension of time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323, Docket No. 011050.58088US.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Richard R. Diefendorf', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops.

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